

## A Friend of Law Enforcement

After working most of his professional career in Texas law enforcement, Senator John Cornyn knows first-hand the dedication of the men and women who protect our fellow Texans. While serving as Attorney General of Texas, the state's chief law enforcement officer, Cornyn created and backed numerous initiatives to strengthen law enforcement, including the groundbreaking Texas Exile program, which increases the penalties for criminal gun use by convicted felons.

John Cornyn has taken his Texas experience to the United States Senate, advocating issues that bolster law enforcement through his work on the Senate Judiciary Committee. He believes that local, state, and federal authorities *must* work together as partners to enforce the law, and that they must be given the legal tools and funding resources necessary to do their jobs well.

Over the past four years, Senator Cornyn has established a strong record on law enforcement issues.

- ✓ Helped pass the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 allowing active
  and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed weapons nationwide.
- ✓ Supported the State Justice Institute Reauthorization Act of 2004, providing grants to law enforcement for the purchase of bulletproof vests. Since 2004,

Texas law enforcement has received almost \$3 million for 25,198 vests.

✓ Supported the Hometown Heroes

Survivors Benefits Act, providing a
\$262,000 survivors' benefit to families
of public safety officers who die from a
duty-related heart attack or stroke.



- Helped fund the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, bringing \$60 million to Texas to fund 275 new police officers on Texas streets.
- ✓ Supported the **PROTECT Act**, creating a national AMBER Alert Network, providing \$25 million to



- states, allowing prosecutors to bring John Doe/DNA indictments for federal sex offenses against an unnamed individual's DNA profile, and allowing prosecution beyond the five-year statute of limitations.
- ✓ Supported the **Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006**, creating a national registration system for sex offenders and offenders against children, and increasing the punishments for any violent crimes against children.
- Supported the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act, removing barriers that prevent law enforcement from sharing

Senator John Cornyn is a recipient of the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas' Legislative Award

- information, and giving law enforcement access to the same tools in terrorism cases as they've used for decades in drug, fraud and racketeering cases.
- ✓ Cosponsored the Crime Victims Rights constitutional amendment, protecting crime victims' rights by keeping them properly informed, represented, and heard
  - at important stages of the case against their attackers.



Cosponsored the State Criminal Alien
Assistance Program Reauthorization Act of
2003, reimbursing Texas approximately \$24
million a year for the cost of incarcerating
criminal illegal immigrants, and has continually
supported efforts to increase the funding Texas
receives from the program.

- ✓ Introduced an amendment to the **Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006**, providing reimbursement to border law enforcement officials who participate in immigration training programs.
- ✓ Sponsored the Going After Nefarious Gangs (GANG) Act of 2006, increasing prison sentences for gang-related crimes and providing law enforcement with sophisticated technology to crack down on criminal street gangs.

Senator Cornyn continues to work in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress to support law enforcement.

✓ Cosponsoring the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2007 to allow non-traditional law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms and to expand retired law enforcement officers' eligibility to carry concealed weapons.



- ✓ Introduced the Law Enforcement
  Officers and Judges Protection
  - **Act of 2007** to curb frivolous lawsuits against police officers; impose mandatory sentences for crimes against federal law enforcement officers; allow federal judges and U.S. attorneys to carry firearms; and impose mandatory penalties on those who threaten the families of federal judges or law enforcement officers.
- Cosponsoring the Gang Abatement and Prevention Act of 2007 to help law enforcement combat gang violence by cooperating to identify, target, and eliminate violent gangs; establish new offenses that allow law enforcement to fight gang activity more effectively; and authorize \$1 billion for community programs that prevent youth from joining gangs.
- ✓ Cosponsoring the **Risk-Based Homeland Security Grants Act of 2007** to distribute homeland security funding to local law enforcement based on actual threats and vulnerabilities.
- Cosponsoring and helping pass the Court Security Improvement Act of 2007 to strengthen and expand protections for judges and their families.